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INFORMATION REPORT

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a speech made by Jacob Berman
PR. Berman, who is secretary of
that he claimed were made to him
ediev.

1. In analyzing the Poles' incredible and suicidal hatred for the USSR, Ambassador Lebediev arrived at the following conclusions:
 - a. Poland is primarily a peasant country; Polish feeling is dominated by the richer peasants, and the majority of the intelligentsia comes from peasant stock. It is this element of intelligentsia and peasants which sees in the USSR Poland's greatest enemy and which holds very strong hatred for the Soviet Union and Socialist ideas.
 - b. After 1918 Poles looked upon Communist influence as their greatest menace and the ruling class educated youth to hate the USSR, hoping thereby to immunize it from this influence. From this attitude stemmed the persecution of Communists, the Beck policy, which was against the interests of Poland, and the Sanacja policy of regaining Polish losses at the cost of the Ukraine and Byelorussia.
 - c. Although the Poles understand the German menace and recognize the need for co-operation with the USSR, they prefer a sealed border between Poland and the USSR. They do not want in any case to organize their country according to Soviet patterns and would like to escape Soviet control.

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